

3869

Wharncam Percy - Nave Archive: List of Burials

Ancient Monuments Laboratory
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Examination of the human skeletal remains from the nave of the church showed that there had been a great deal of confusion of bone, particularly from those burials which could not be classified as single, supine, articulated skeletons. The following is a list of the findings made in the laboratory including: sorting results for disturbed material and an estimate of the amount and condition of the bones from each individual skeleton. This is confined to a general assessment; a detailed record of the bones and teeth present and their condition was made on the individual data sheets for each burial.

For the purposes of analysis the nave was divided into two areas (in accordance with the excavation sequence): Nave East and Nave West.

Nave East

- AA C1602: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition
- BB C1599: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition
- X C1584: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

Disturbed Bone from Burials BB, CC, DD, FF and X

Various fragments of infant and juvenile bone were found with the following burials: BB C1599, X C1584, FF C1601, CC C1600 and DD C1606. Since, with the exception of the infant in CC C1600, these were generally instances of one or two bones only it was suggested that the material represented the disturbed remains of one or two infants and juveniles which had been scattered by the later insertion of the adult burials. Unfortunately this could not be proved by reconstruction of the bones. Using the above assumption it was concluded that there were a minimum number of three individuals present: one infant and two juveniles.

Burials CC and DD

These were listed as two burials: CC C1600 and DD C1606. DD C1606 was found to contain the remains of one individual together with some extra bones which were attributed to CC C1600. Examination of the material from CC C1600 showed that there were a minimum of two individuals present and these were numbered accordingly.

CC(1) C1600: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/4)

CC(2) C1600: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/4)

DD C1606: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

Burial EE

This burial was found to contain the remains of more than one individual. The surrounding graves were examined to see if there had been confusion of bone (JJ C2203, LL C2216, SS C2215). There was no evidence for this, the only extra bones being a metacarpal and the feet from JJ C2203 which probably belonged to EE C1603. It was therefore concluded that EE C1603 held the remains of two individuals: an earlier disturbed burial with more fragmentary bones and a later more complete skeleton. It should be noted that the two skeletons were similar in age and morphology and it was impossible to sort them completely; this included the skulls.

EE(A) C1603: Nearly complete skull in poor condition

EE(B) C1603: Partial cranium in poor condition

EE(1) C1603: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/3)

EE(2) C1603: Partial skeleton in poor condition (very
few bones)

Note: In the report text the two individuals from EE are referred to as EE(1) C1603 and EE(2) C1603.

Burials FF and GG

The remains from this grave indicated the presence of two individuals FF C1601 and GG C1601. There was an extra skull present. This could not have belonged to either of FF C1601 or GG C1601 nor to any of the surrounding burials, therefore it was included as a separate individual under the number FF/GG (A) C1601.

FF C1601: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

GG C1601: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.2/3)

FF/GG (A) C1601: Partial skull in poor condition

JJ C2203: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/2)

Burials KK and PP

In the area of burials KK C2217 and PP C2206 various disturbed bones were found (listed as "C2200 above KK"). These bones were examined and found to represent a minimum number of three individuals - the fragments being mainly cranial. In view of the fact that the skull was missing from PP C2206 it was considered quite likely that one of the skulls did come from PP C2206 and that the miscellaneous bone represented a minimum number of two individuals.

KK C2217: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition

PP C2206: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition

KK/PP C2200: The fragmentary remains of a minimum of two
individuals.

LL C2215: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition

Burial MM

This burial was found to contain the remains of two individuals.

MM C2208: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/4)

MM C2214: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

Burials OO, NN and QQ

Examination of the material revealed that there had been some confusion of the bones from these burials. They were sorted as follows:

NN - : Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.2/3)

OO C2212: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

NN/OO C2211: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

QQ C2210/C2202: Partial skeleton in poor condition

(c.2/3)

Burial RR

The bones from this burial included two humeri from other individuals; one from a sub-adult and one from a juvenile. Examination of the grave plan and the remains led to the conclusion that the sub-adult humerus belonged with burial Y/Z C1597 and the juvenile humerus with UU/VV C2207.

RR C2205: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/2)

SS C2215: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/3)

TT C2209: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

UU/VV C2207: Two juvenile skeletons in very poor
condition - little remaining.

Burials Y/Z C1597

Although the material from these burials was originally listed as Y C1597 and Z C1598 the remains were all found to be included under the number C1597 and therefore they were treated as a group. A minimum estimate of four individuals was obtained from the skulls, humeri, femora and tibiae. The only separation of the remains that was attempted was to sort the skull remains to Y/Z (A) - (D) C1597 and to pair the humeri, femora and tibiae. This was achieved on the size, sex and age of the bone. Results showed that there were two males, a female and a sub-adult present. It was possible to assign more material to the female and the sub-adult than to the males.

Y/Z(1) C1597: Pair of femora and tibiae, probably male

Y/Z(2) C1597: Pair of tibiae, probably male

Y/Z(3) C1597: Partial female skeleton in good condition (skull C, left scapula, right humerus, left radius, ulnae, pelvis, femora and tibiae).

Y/Z(4) C1597: Partial sub-adult skeleton in fair condition (skull A, right humerus, femora right tibia and left calcaneus).

Burials without bone - Nave East

No bones were available for study from Burials HH, II, WW, XX, YY, ZZ as the skeletal remains were not lifted during excavation and remain in situ in the church (HH and II were in the chancel).

Nave West

- A C1436: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/3)
- B C1437: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/2)
- C C2219: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/4)
- D C1482: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition
- E C1483: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition
- F C1438: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition
(lacks skull)
- G C1480: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

Burials A - G: Disturbed Bone

There was a very large quantity of disturbed material in this area generally listed as "above E,F" etc. The situation was such that fragments from different numbers and sometimes from different locations were found to be from the same bone of the same individual, eg. C1450.

The numbering of the boxes of F C1438 meant that it was impossible to distinguish which skull actually went with the post-cranial remains. These skull fragments were therefore included as F (A)-(E) C1438. There was also a finds number of C1493 for burial F but it was not feasible to distinguish a separate individual with this number. The list of numbers is as follows:

- C1448/C1449: Four skulls present. Also some cranial fragments from other individuals not

attributable to any of the skulls here. No estimate of the number of individuals from these latter available. Two sets of post-cranial remains. Two juvenile skeletons in poor condition. For the report these remains were numbered (1) - (4) C1449 and (1) and (2) C1448 J.

F C1438/C1493: Various fragmentary remains, generally in poor condition. Identified as a minimum number of four individuals on the basis of four right ulnae.

F (A)-(E) C1438 : The first four of these were skulls and the last was a mandible which it was assumed belonged to one of the skulls although it was not clear which. There were a minimum number of four individuals.

Note: For the purposes of the report it was assumed that the miscellaneous material listed under F C1438 represented the remains of four individuals which were listed as F (A)-(D) C1438.

C1450: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/3)

I C1481: Partial cranium in very poor condition

K C1440: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

K C1486: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

Burials L and M

There was some confusion of the material from these graves but this could be sorted by individual.

L (1) C1439: Partial skeleton in good condition (c.2/3)

L (2)-(4) C1439: Very fragmentary remains, minimum number of three individuals.

M C2225: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/2)

Burial N

There was some disturbed material in this grave, listed as "above N". It was possible to sort the bones into three individuals.

N C1441: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

N (1) C1452: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/3)

N (2) C1452: Partial skeleton in fair condition (c.1/3)

O C1442: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

Burials P and R

There was a quantity of miscellaneous bone listed as "above P" and "above R" which was found to include the remains of a minimum number of four individuals.

P C1443: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition

R C1445: Nearly complete skeleton in good condition

P/R C1453/C1454: The fragmentary remains of a minimum of four individuals

Q C1444: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition
S C1446: Nearly complete skeleton in poor condition
T C1447: Nearly complete skeleton in fair condition

Burial Y

This burial contained the remains of two individuals.

V C1484: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

V C2220: Partial skeleton in poor condition (c.1/5)

Burials without bone, Nave West

The following numbers were listed as graves but no bones were available for study: H C1485, J C1466, U C1494, W C2230.